

To His EXCELLENCY,
RICHARD,

Earl of BELLOMONT, Baron of Coloony, in
 the Kingdom of *Ireland*, GOVERNOUR
 and Commander in Chief of the Provinces
 of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, *New-York* and
New-Hampshire.

*The Address of the Ministers met at Boston in
 New England, May 31st. 1699.*

May it please Your Excellency,

LONG before this Province could be irradiated with
 Your Excellency's Happy Arrival to Us, there Dawn'd upon
 from all Quarters a Joyful Certification of Your Excellent
 Character.

And indeed while we Congratulate Your Excellency's Arrival
 unto this part of Your Government, We do but Congratulate our own
 Felicity, in having the Helm of the Government, by His Majesties Com-
 mission, put into the Hands of One, who is Adorned with so Charming
 an Image of His Own Royal Vertues.

His Majesty hath for ever obliged the English Nation, by His Royal
 Assent to those Acts of Parliament, which have Enriched it with Blessings
 richly worth all the Expences of the Late Happy Revolution. But Your
 Lordships Most Generous, and Prosperous Conduct, in labouring to bring
 about those Acts, hath laid *England* under the same Obligation to Your
 Lordship, that *Ireland* hath to Your Illustrious Ancestors.

From doing of Benefits to the best Island and Garden of the other Hæ-
 misphere, Your Excellency is now come to be a Benefactor, unto the
 Continent of *America*, and Countries that have subdued an *American* Wil-
 derness, to be a significant part of the *English Empire*.

His Majesty in His Royal Wisdom discerned, That the rare Temper,
 which qualifies Your Excellency, for the most Honourable Undertakings,
 would best of all express His own Gracious Intentions, to this part of His
 Dominions. And the Prudence and Goodness, with which Your Excellency
 hath managed the Affairs of *New-York*, is an actual Demonstration of His
 Majesties Wisdom in the Choice of an Healer for them.

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The Condition of *Scotland*, hath been so consider'd by His Majesty, That He hath not only consented unto their *Laws*, which have Established their Church-Government, as 'tis now Reformed; but more than once or twice assured them of His Resolution to maintain that Church Government among them. This Greatest of Monarchs that ever Sat on the Throne of *Great Britain*, and best of Kings at this Day Swaying a Scepter upon Earth, hath now given Your Excellency the Command over *New-England*; and a People that are a Nation of *Non-Conformists*, which those in *Scotland* justly look upon as their *United Brethren*.

Your Excellency expressing so much good-will as You have done to the Late Act of Parliament, which hath made the Non-conformists in *England*, Legal Parts of the Church in *England*; well knew what Hearty Friends, the vast Body of *Non-Conformists* are to the *English Liberties*; and what Loyal Subjects to the High and Mighty Prince, unto whom (under God) We are all Indebted, for the Recovery of those Liberties; and how much an Union between all Good Men, whether Conformists or Nonconformists, will contribute unto the Strength of the Protestant Interest.

And we believe, That Your Excellency will on all occasions express the good-will of a Common Father unto the Churches of *Non-conformists* (if where they bear the proportion of more than One Hundred unto One, it be proper to call them So) in *New-England*: Churches wherein the pure Doctrine in the famous *Articles* of the Church of *England* is Owned and Preached with all possible Purity; and the *Primitive Discipline* which even the Liturgy of the Church of *England* wisheth to see Restored, is practised.

But we cannot single out any one point, wherein we are more Importunity more Sollicit Your Excellency's Favour our *University*. It's Languishing for want of it. We beseech us to pray Your Excellency, That You would carry such a design upon it; as that by Your Interest and Influence, in concurrence with our General Assembly, there may be obtained from His Majesty, a Settlement of that our *University*, upon such Foundations as may best answer the Ends, for which both It, and the Colonies hitherto kept alive by It, have thus Enlarged the English Empire.

Now we shall in our several places Endeavour, That our People may be Inspired with Evangelical Principles of Subjection to Government, Obedience to *N*atures, and Readiness to every Good Work: So we shall make it our Care, That our Glorious Lord JESUS CHRIST, would Preserve the *M*AJESTY, and bestow His manifold Benediction on Your Excellency and on Your Excellency's Noble and Hopeful Family.

Increase Sather,

In the Name, and at the Desire of the Ministers, in the
Province of the Massachusetts-Bay, who Met
at Boston, May 31. 1699.

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to His Excellency the GOVERNOUR and COUNCIL, 1699.